



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

24 April 2012

Top Stories

- A Costa Rican company agreed to plead guilty in court in Virginia to a \$670 million global insurance fraud scheme. – *Associated Press* (See item [11](#))
- More than 160,000 bridges in the United States are either structurally deficient or functionally obsolete, according to a new report by a national civil engineers' group. – *Homeland Security News Wire* (See item [14](#))
- Contrary to recent reports, the Flashback botnet that mounted the first ever successful malware attack against Apple's OS X is growing. The infection count was estimated to be 650,000 machines as of April 20. – *Computerworld* (See item [43](#))
- After two deadly booby traps were discovered by a U.S. Forest Service officer along a popular walking trail in Provo Canyon in Utah, two men were taken into custody. – *NewsCore* (See item [51](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: LOW, Cyber: LOW

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *April 23, Reuters* – (National) **Winter returns with a blast as snow pounds U.S. Northeast.** A snowstorm struck a wide area of the Northeast April 23, raising the threat of downed trees and hazardous roads and causing scattered power outages in several states. The National Weather Service issued winter storm warnings from West Virginia northward into western New York. As much as a foot of snow was forecast for higher elevations of western Pennsylvania. About 57,000 power outages were reported scattered across several states from Kentucky to Maine, with most of them in Pennsylvania and upstate New York. Portions of southern New England continued to receive soaking rain as strong winds picked up along the coast, prompting a flood advisory for the area. Winds of up to 50 miles per hour were expected in some areas, the service said on its Web site.
Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/nationworld/sns-rt-us-usa-weather-northeastbre83l08z-20120422,0,7491536.story>
2. *April 22, WHIO 7 Dayton* – (Ohio) **Last flames put out from massive oil blaze.** The last, lingering flames leftover from a massive fire at a Clark County, Ohio oil company were completely extinguished April 21. The Pike Township fire chief said the last flare up at the R.D. Holder Oil Company happened April 21, and all fire crews cleared the scene. Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) workers and private contractors were still removing hazardous chemicals from the site April 22. The fire erupted April 19 as workers transferred liquid fuel into a tanker. Officials believe the fire started from a spark of static electricity. Fifty agencies worked 6 hours to get the fire under control, using water and foam. Ohio EPA officials said the water caused a runoff of oil and debris to flow into surrounding waterways. Oil runoff was found in an unnamed tributary of Donnels Creek which runs behind R.D. Holder. Veolia Environmental Services of Dayton cleaned up the oil, set up booms in the water, and dug a trench off the waterway to intercept any additional oil or runoff. The oil company supplies diesel fuel, heating oil, gasoline, Dragon racing fuel, biodiesels, and lubricants, although the owner said they only had lubricants at the scene.
Source: <http://www.whiotv.com/news/news/local/Last-flames-put-out-from-massive-oil-blaze/nMfKD/>
3. *April 20, Reuters* – (Texas) **BP says Texas City hydrocracker shut by storm.** A hydrocracking unit was shut by a lightning strike April 20 at BP's Texas City, Texas refinery, a company spokesman said. The shutdown of the hydrocracker triggered a fire in a pipe flange on the unit. The fire was brought under control by the refinery's fire-fighting unit, a BP spokesman said. There were no injuries reported due to the fire. A hydrocracker uses hydrogen to increase the production of motor fuel from a barrel of crude oil.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/04/21/us-refinery-operations-bp-texascity-idUSBRE83J1NJ20120421>

4. *April 20, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Minnesota ethanol plant fined \$800,000.** A Minnesota ethanol plant has been fined an \$800,000 pollution penalty, the latest in a multi-year regulatory crackdown that state officials said appears to be changing the industry's ways. Bushmills Ethanol Inc. of Atwater, Minnesota, was fined for illegally discharging salt-laden wastewater into a ditch and then lying about it, the state pollution control agency said April 20. It is the third-highest penalty against a Minnesota ethanol producer in 6 years, a period when 13 of the state's 21 plants were caught polluting the air or waterways, and sometimes both. Altogether the penalties have exceeded \$5.1 million.
Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/148254385.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *April 23, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Cause of 3-alarm warehouse fire in Canton still to be determined.** The cause of an April 22 chemical warehouse fire in Baltimore that forced the evacuation of dozens of homes was still to be determined the morning of April 23 because unsafe conditions prevented an investigation. Officials from the Maryland Department for the Environment (MDE) and a building inspector were expected on the site at Eastern Plating Co., which makes chemicals used in the defense, aerospace, and medical industries, April 23, a Baltimore fire spokesman said. The warehouse is in the Canton neighborhood. The MDE was needed to help HAZMAT crews evaluate the integrity of tanks containing hazardous chemicals, the spokesman said. Nearly 90 firefighters battled the three-alarm blaze, bringing it under control around midnight. A few crews remained April 23, wetting the embers to prevent the fire from reigniting. Heavy smoke caused officials to evacuate 60 people the night of April 22 for about 2 hours. Power was out in the immediate area for several hours, but had been mostly restored by the morning of April 23. The fire spokesman said he expects the building to be demolished. Multiple areas of the building collapsed in the fire, he said.
Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/breaking/bs-md-warehouse-fire-canton-20120423,0,5991476.story>
6. *April 23, KCRA 3 Sacramento* – (California) **Big rig spills sulfur near Yosemite entrance.** Hazardous materials crews were cleaning up a highway sulfur spill near the entrance of Yosemite National Park in California, April 23. The California Highway Patrol said a big-rig started spilling 25-pound bags of powdered sulfur the night of April 22 on U.S. Route 41 near the Fish Camp section of Mariposa County and the entrance to Yosemite. The Fresno Bee said 600 bags of sulfur spilled on the highway, sparking several small fires that were extinguished. Highway 41 remained closed in the area as of early April 23, and agencies involved in the cleanup expected to have the highway and the Yosemite entrance open by noon.
Source: <http://www.kcra.com/r/30940310/detail.html>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

7. *April 19, Newport Beach Patch* – (California) **San Onofre nuclear power plant leads nation in safety complaints.** The San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station near San Diego continued to rank number one in the nation for both substantiated and unsubstantiated safety complaints at nuclear plants, according to figures from federal regulators, the Newport Beach Patch reported April 19. The number of substantiated safety allegations at San Onofre was more than six times the national average in 2011, a significant drop from its peak in 2010 when it was 15 times the average. But even with the decline, San Onofre was — for the third year in a row — the national leader in safety allegations substantiated by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Source: <http://newportbeach.patch.com/articles/san-onofre-nuclear-power-plant-leads-nation-in-safety-complaints-8cbf118a>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

8. *April 19, Associated Press* – (Mississippi) **500K in auto parts allegedly stolen from Nissan plant.** Authorities said a raid on a car restoration business uncovered about \$500,000 in parts that police believe were stolen from the Nissan North American plant in Canton, Mississippi, the Associated Press reported April 19. A Jackson police sergeant said authorities were acting on a tip when they raided Precious Automotive Auto Restoration in Jackson. Several crates of batteries and 10 boxes of catalytic converters, valued at \$5,260 each, were among the items found. The shop owner was arrested on suspicion of receiving and possessing stolen goods. Two other employees were arrested on outstanding warrants. Investigators did not know how the parts were taken from the plant or how long the thefts have been going on. Source: http://www.wtok.com/news/headlines/Police_500K_in_Nissan_plant_parts_recovered_148104025.html?ref=025

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *April 23, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network* – (National) **FinCEN reports mortgage fraud SARs increased in 2011 even as fourth quarter level decreased.** The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) April 23 released its full year 2011 update of mortgage loan fraud reported suspicious activity reports (MLF SARs) that showed financial institutions submitted 92,028 MLF SARs in 2011, a 31 percent increase over the 70,472 submitted in 2010. The increase can primarily be attributable to mortgage repurchase demands. Financial institutions submitted 17,050 MLF SARs in the 2011 fourth quarter, a 9 percent decrease in filings over the same period in 2010 when financial institutions filed 18,759 MLF SARs. The fourth quarter of 2011 was the first time since the fourth quarter of 2010 when filings of MLF SARs had fallen from the previous year. FinCEN also updated its SAR data sets used in the report.
Source: http://www.fincen.gov/news_room/nr/html/20120423.html
10. *April 22, KCEN 6 Temple* – (Texas) **Four Houston banks robbed within 4 hours.** Houston police officers along with the FBI searched for five bank robbery suspects April 21 after detectives said four banks were robbed in the span of 4 hours. “The first robbery took place around 11:05 a.m. at [a] Wells Fargo,” an FBI spokeswoman said. “Two men used weapons to threaten the employees and customers inside another Wells Fargo, which was robbed at 11:30 a.m. At the same time 8 miles away, a man stormed into a Compass Bank with a gun and pointed his weapon at the teller demanding cash, investigators said. According to officers he fired one shot before running out of the bank. The fourth robbery took place near the Galleria at a Chase Bank around 2:30 p.m. As a suspect was running away, the dye pack exploded in the parking lot, but the thief was able to get away on foot before police arrived. In all four cases the suspects got away with cash.
Source: <http://www.kcentv.com/story/17653492/four-houston-banks-robbed-within-4-hours>
11. *April 21, Associated Press* – (Virginia; International) **Costa Rican firm pleading guilty in \$670M scam.** A Costa Rican company agreed to plead guilty to a \$670 million global insurance fraud scheme. Provident Capital Indemnity Ltd. entered a plea agreement April 20 in a U.S. district court in Richmond, Virginia, where its majority owner and president is scheduled for a jury trial starting April 23. He is charged with conspiracy, wire fraud, mail fraud, and money laundering. According to court papers, Provident agreed to plead guilty to a single count of mail and wire fraud conspiracy. A half-dozen mail fraud and wire fraud counts will be dropped. Provident sold bonds guaranteeing funding for life settlement companies, which buy life insurance policies from insured people at less than face value and collect the benefits when those people die. The government claimed Provident misled investors about its financial stability, its credit rating, and whether its financial statements had been audited. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission also filed a civil complaint against Provident in 2011, and a judge froze the company’s assets and enjoined it from doing business.
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/2012-04/D9U9I0PO0.htm>

12. *April 21, Reuters* – (International) **Italy police seize \$5 billion of U.S. securities.** Italy financial police have seized U.S. securities with face values of about \$1.5 billion and gold certificates worth above \$3.96 billion as part of an investigation into a possible international financial scam. The police said April 21 the “million dollar” operation was a last step in the probe, which centered on the use of bearer Federal Reserve debt securities dating back to the 1930s as a guarantee for loans or other opaque cross-border transactions. Rome police seized the securities from a man, who held them in a briefcase along with documents about financial operations, the police said in a statement. Police said they were carrying out checks, helped by the U.S. Central Bank and the U.S. embassy in Rome, over the authenticity and origin of the securities, as well as over possible links between the man and criminal organizations.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/04/21/us-italy-police-seize-idUSBRE83K08F20120421>
13. *April 20, KTVK 3 Phoenix; KASW Phoenix 6* – (Arizona) **‘Bearded Bandit’ wanted in 7 bank robberies.** Police have asked for information from the public in the Phoenix area as they continue to search for a bank robber dubbed the “Bearded Bandit.” The suspect robbed seven banks in the Phoenix metropolitan area between December 22 and April 3, according to police. In each case, the suspect walked up to the tellers and demanded money then fled on foot with the cash. Police have described the suspect as a white male who has worn a fake beard and wig in the robberies.
Source: <http://www.azfamily.com/news/Bearded-Bandit-wanted-in-7-bank-robberies-148280855.html>

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Transportation Sector

14. *April 23, Homeland Security News Wire* – (National) **U.S. aging bridges in critical condition.** There are an estimated 18,000 bridges in the United States which are classed as fracture-critical bridges, requiring continual inspections, Homeland Security News Wire reported April 23. The need for increased inspection and maintenance runs against shrinking state and federal budgets for infrastructure improvements. The American Society of Civil Engineers’ (ASCE) most recent report card gave the condition of bridges in the U.S. a grade of C. The ASCE notes 26 percent of U.S. bridges are either structurally deficient or functionally obsolete. They note that as of 2008, the year of the most recent pre-report card survey, one in four bridges in rural areas was deficient, while one in three urban-area bridges are in the same class. Under ASCE definition, structurally deficient bridges, though not unsafe, must post speed and weight restrictions because of limited structural capacity. A functionally obsolete bridge, though not unsafe either, has older design features and geometrics, and cannot accommodate current traffic volumes, vehicle sizes, and weights.
Source: <http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20120423-u-s-aging-bridges-in-critical-condition>
15. *April 23, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Fatal crash causes major delays on Beltway.** One person was killed and a second was injured April 23 in an accident on

the outer loop of the Capital Beltway in Silver Spring, Maryland. According to police, the crash involved multiple cars and a tractor trailer. One person was pronounced dead. A second person was taken to a local hospital, but police did not have details about the victim's injuries or condition. Investigators shut down all lanes of I-495 between Colesville Road and Georgia Avenue for several hours. Lanes began reopening about 4 hours later, but there were reports that heavy delays persisted.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/crime-scene/post/fatal-crash-causes-major-delays-on-beltway/2012/04/23/gIQA1mqebT_blog.html

16. *April 23, Chattanooga Chattanooga* – (Tennessee) **Passenger cited after TSA discovers loaded firearm at Chattanooga airport checkpoint.** The Transportation Security Administration discovered a firearm at the checkpoint at Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport in Chattanooga, Tennessee, April 20. A loaded .32 Beretta was discovered in a passenger's carry-on bag. Airport police were alerted, took possession of the bag and cited the passenger. The gun was the first firearm discovered at Chattanooga airport in 2012. There were four firearms discovered in 2011.
Source: <http://www.chattanooga.com/2012/4/23/224480/Passenger-Cited-After-TSA-Discovers.aspx>
17. *April 21, Associated Press* – (California) **Would-be LA-area plane-jacker thwarted by chains.** Authorities said an armed man tried to steal a small plane from a Los Angeles County airport, but his flight was foiled by a chain connecting the aircraft to the tarmac, the Associated Press reported April 21. A sheriff's statement said the man attempted to steal the two-seat Cessna 152 April 20 from Compton/Woodley Airport in Compton, California, where he was a student pilot. Airport employees said he entered the airport office and began taking keys for airplanes, then pulled a gun on them when they tried to stop him. He was turned over to FBI officials, who booked him on suspicion of aircraft piracy.
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2012/04/21/would-be-la-area-plane-jacker-thwarted-by-chains/>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

18. *April 23, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts; International) **UPS flight en route to Germany diverted to Logan.** A UPS cargo plane en route to Germany was diverted to Logan International Airport in Boston after a warning sensor indicated smoke on the plane, the Associated Press reported April 23. A Logan Airport spokesman said the flight originated in Philadelphia and was headed to Cologne, Germany, before it was diverted April 22. A UPS spokesman said airport crews inspected the Boeing 767 and could find no evidence of any fire. The spokesman said it was possible the sensor malfunctioned.
Source: http://www.timesonline.com/news/state/ups-flight-en-route-to-germany-diverted-to-logan/article_95f2d544-462f-56d8-8251-050892360a0d.html

Agriculture and Food Sector

19. *April 22, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Bayou Verdone cleanup to begin in August.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said it will begin cleaning up a nearly 3-mile portion of Bayou Verdone, in Lake Charles, Louisiana, in August, one of the Calcasieu estuary's dirtiest waterways. The Lake Charles American Press reported the project will dredge and remove hazardous chemicals and debris from the bayou that federal and state scientists said originated at a refinery and industrial plant. The substances settled into the water bed, contaminating fisheries and wildlife. HAZMAT workers will dredge contaminated soil and then pump water and waterbed to a nearby pond. Eventually, the secured pond will be covered. Collected natural and man-made debris will be sent to a landfill. EPA officials intend to have the project completed by 2015. After the final phase of work is completed, the two companies responsible for exceeding chemical discharges, ConocoPhillips and Sasol North America, will have spent \$28 million in fines and hazardous waste removal.
Source: <http://www.shreveporttimes.com/article/DG/20120423/NEWS01/204230312/Bayou-Verdone-cleanup-begin-August?odyssey=nav/head>
20. *April 21, Food Safety News* – (Missouri) **15 ill with E. coli in Missouri, multiple sources possible.** Illnesses in the E. coli O157:H7 outbreak in central Missouri rose to 15 April 20, suggesting the infections may come from multiple sources. Of the 15 cases, seven individuals reported consuming raw milk products from a single dairy in Howard County. Six of the seven match by their identifiable genetic pattern known as a pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE). Of the other eight illnesses, the people who did not report consuming raw milk products, only one individual has a PFGE pattern matching the raw milk drinkers. The other 7 infections vary genetically or did not return a PFGE reading. The newest case in the outbreak is a child under 18 from Boone County who was hospitalized but was released. A 2-year-old from Boone County was hospitalized for more than 2 weeks after developing symptoms of hemolytic uremic syndrome. The 15 illnesses are spread across Boone, Camden, Clarke, Cooper, Howard, and Jackson counties.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/04/15-ill-with-e-coli-in-missouri-multiple-sources-possible/>
21. *April 21, Food Safety News* – (Oregon) **19 ill with E. coli in Oregon raw milk outbreak.** Another person in Oregon became ill after an E. coli outbreak was traced to raw milk from Foundation Farm near Wilsonville, according to a April 20 news release from the public health division of the state's health authority. Of the 19 total cases, 11 have culture-confirmed E. coli O157 infections. Fifteen of the cases are children 19 or younger, four of the children were hospitalized with kidney failure. According to a member of the cowshare implicated in the outbreak, as many as four of the farmer's children are also sickened, including one with hemolytic uremic syndrome.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/04/post-5/>

22. *April 21, Food Safety News* – (National) **Sushi salmonella outbreak total rises to 160 confirmed cases.** Nineteen more cases of Salmonella Bareilly infection were confirmed in the multistate outbreak linked to sushi tuna. At least 160 people in 20 states and Washington, D.C. have been sickened, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported April 20. The CDC said the outbreak is likely much larger, estimating that for every case of salmonellosis, 38.6 go unreported. That would translate to about 6,176 people ill from eating tainted tuna. The implicated frozen raw yellowfin tuna product was imported from India and was recalled by the California-based distributor, Moon Marine USA. According to the CDC's latest update, the 19 new outbreak cases include 14 reported by Massachusetts, 2 reported by New York, and 1 each reported by Illinois, North Carolina, and Virginia. The ill people range in age from 4 to 78 years, and 66 percent are female. At least 26 have been hospitalized. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/04/sushi-salmonella-outbreak-total-rises-to-160-cases/>
23. *April 21, Food Safety News* – (Colorado) **Allergen alert: Bratwurst with egg.** Old Style Sausage of Denver, Colorado, recalled 3,000 pounds of bratwurst distributed to restaurants in the state because the sausage contains egg, an allergen not declared on the package label. The problem was discovered during a routine food safety assessment and may have occurred as a result of a change in ingredient formulation, according to the recall alert. The recalled sausages do not have a packaging date or code but may bear a label with the establishment number EST. 8126 inside the U.S. Department of Agriculture mark of inspection. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/04/allergen-alert-bratwurst-with-egg/>
24. *April 21, Food Safety News* – (Michigan; Indiana) **Listeria test leads to pizza calzone recall.** Albie's Foods of Gaylord, Michigan recalled 311 pounds of pizza calzone due to possible contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes*, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced April 20. The problem was discovered during routine FSIS testing. There were no reports of illnesses associated with the calzone produced April 10, and shipped to institutions in Indiana and Michigan. The recall is for packages containing 48 4.5-oz. pieces of "Albie's Pizza Calzone" bearing the establishment number EST. 10100 inside the USDA mark of inspection. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/04/listeria-test-leads-to-pizza-calzone-recall/>
25. *April 21, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **Phoenix bagel shop employees treated for carbon monoxide.** A north Phoenix bagel shop was evacuated and seven employees were treated for carbon monoxide poisoning April 21. A spokesman for the Phoenix Fire Department said the Einstein Bros. Bagel was closed due to a leak found in the hood of a stove. At the time of the evacuation, five employees had symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning and three were sent to the hospital, however, all were in stable condition, he said. Source: <http://tucsoncitizen.com/arizona-news/2012/04/21/phoenix-bagel-shop-employees-treated-for-carbon-monoxide/>

26. *April 20, WTVF 5 Nashville* – (Tennessee) **State officials warn of tainted potatoes.** Tennessee officials issued a warning to Nashville residents April 20 about possible tainted potatoes. A fiery crash on Interstate 24 April 18 sent 40,000 pounds of potatoes rolling from the back of a tractor trailer. The spuds were exposed to smoke, flames, fire retardant, and possibly other chemicals as fire crews worked to put out the blaze. The potatoes were reportedly dumped on a private lot to await a trip to the landfill, but have since disappeared. State agriculture and health officials received reports that north Nashville residents may have received some of the tainted potatoes. The potatoes were labeled as Dole brand Russet potatoes and packaged in 10-pound poly bags.

Source: <http://www.newschannel5.com/story/17630236/state-officials-warn-of-tainted-potatoes>

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Water Sector

27. *April 23, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Wisconsin DNR way behind on lake permits.** Wisconsin is not fully enforcing the strict phosphorus limits adopted 2 years ago to reduce algae blooms that turn many of the state's lakes green and can make people sick, the Wausau Daily Herald reported April 22. The lack of enforcement comes despite alarm expressed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) secretary over conditions in at least one lake. In 2010, the legislature approved the limits, aimed at wastewater treatment plants, paper mills, and factories. As of the week of April 16, only 19 permits had been issued since September 2010 under the limits. The DNR still is evaluating applications from 201 municipal facilities and 155 industrial facilities, and hundreds more must apply in the coming years.
- Source: http://www.thonline.com/news/iowa-illinois-wisconsin/article_4565bb8f-446d-5cd8-9326-2914a21aab7e.html
28. *April 22, Fairbanks Daily News-Miner* – (Alaska) **Water leak drains Minto reservoir, forces residents to conserve until pumps replenish supply.** Residents in the village of Minto, Alaska, 130 miles north of Fairbanks, have been rationing water for 2 weeks because the village's 3 wells can not produce enough water to satisfy the demand of the village's approximately 250 residents, the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner reported April 22. The village has a 150,000-gallon water storage tank that serves as a reservoir for the water and sewer system, but an undetected break in the main water line earlier this winter resulted in the loss of a lot of water. The three wells the village pumps water from to fill the tank have not been able to replenish the supply adequately, the village chief said. "The water table is not producing water fast enough for what we need because the ground is still frozen," she added. The village's water supply got so low the week of April 16 that the village paid to have more than 15,000 gallons of water trucked in by a water company from Fairbanks. The village council asked residents to conserve water by not drinking from faucets, not doing laundry, and flushing toilets only when necessary. The village is seeking funding to drill a new well,

the village chief said.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/ee0d99e1b060411b8f3609b5077303f9/AK--Minto-Water-Shortage/>

29. *April 20, KIVI 6 Boise* – (Idaho) **CJ Strike drinking water free of E. coli, now turned back on for first time since August 2010.** The drinking water system at the Cove Recreation site of CJ Strike near Bruneau, Idaho, has been turned off since August 2010 due to presence of E. coli. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced that the 13,000-gallon water tank was cleaned and turned back on April 16. Approximately 1,000 hours was invested by the BLM in reestablishing public drinking water at the Cove Recreation Site, since it was turned off.
Source: <http://www.kivitv.com/news/local/148283985.html>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

30. *April 21, Union Daily Times* – (South Carolina) **S.C. man claims bomb brought to hospital by mistake.** A man arrested after being found with a bomb in his hospital room at Wallace Thomson Hospital told the Union County, South Carolina, sheriff April 19 he meant no harm and had brought the bomb with him by mistake. He was arrested April 13 after nurses and security personnel found a homemade bomb in a bag he brought with him to the hospital 2 days earlier. The bomb was described as being a small glass bottle containing gunpowder with some kind of sealant on top. There was also a firework fuse that had been removed from the bottle by the time deputies arrived on the scene. While small in size, the sheriff said had the bomb been detonated, it would have destroyed the entire third floor of the hospital because of the oxygen systems in use. Shortly after he was arrested, the man told deputies he had several pipe bombs at his home. The ensuing search turned up seven pipe bombs in a bedroom dresser drawer, part of them metal pipes and the rest PVC pipe. While he told deputies about the bombs at his house, he was otherwise uncooperative with investigators, refusing to say why he brought the bomb to the hospital or made it and the others in the first place.
Source: http://www.uniondailytimes.com/pages/full_story/push?article-Man+claims+bomb+brought+to+hospital+by+mistake%20&id=18311132
31. *April 20, Global Security Newswire* – (National) **WMD treatment development poses significant challenges, GAO says.** There are many obstacles to development of medical countermeasures that can be used to treat victims of a weapons of mass destruction (WMD) attack, including the high rate of failure in efforts to put treatments on the market, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) said in a report issued the week of April 16. There are “few” accessible vaccines and other drugs that could be used to aid people exposed to chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear agent, the study said. “The failure rate for development and licensure of most drugs,

vaccines, and diagnostic devices can be more than 80 percent, depending on the stage of scientific research and development,” the agency said. “Given this risk, as well as a lack of a commercial market for most medical countermeasures, attracting large, experienced pharmaceutical firms to research and develop them is challenging.” The GAO report also noted the need to ensure the effectiveness of treatments without actually exposing humans to WMD agents in testing; difficulties in establishing the correct dosage for children; and assessing the “safety and effectiveness” of unlicensed drugs that might be authorized for use during a health crisis. “Finally, HHS faces the logistical challenge of ongoing replenishment of expiring medical countermeasures in the U.S. Strategic National Stockpile, the national repository of medications, medical supplies, and equipment for public health emergencies,” according to GAO findings. Source: <http://www.nti.org/gsn/article/wmd-treatment-development-poses-significant-challenges-gao-says/>

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Government Facilities Sector

32. *April 23, KMOV 4 St. Louis* – (Missouri) **Explosive device thrown at federal building in downtown St. Louis.** Federal officials are investigating after someone threw an explosive device at the Robert A. Young federal building in downtown St. Louis, Missouri, April 23, authorities said. The building the device was thrown at houses several government agencies, including Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. According to authorities, the device landed on the sidewalk outside the building and exploded. No injuries were reported and there was very little damage done. According to reports, a witness saw the male suspect who threw the device. The witness pursued the man, but he got into a gray Chevy Camaro with Illinois license plates and took off. The vehicle is described as a 1990’s model with no hubcaps and partial license “N50.” Source: <http://www.kmov.com/news/local/Explosive-device-thrown-at-federal-building-in-downtown-St-Louis-148487785.html>
33. *April 22, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Pitt to restrict final exams to five buildings on campus.** The University of Pittsburgh (Pitt) in Pittsburgh will restrict final exams to five buildings, according to security measures announced April 22 in response to bomb threats that have plagued the school since mid-February. The university provost and senior vice chancellor said in a letter to students, faculty, and staff that final exams would be administered only in Alumni Hall, Benedum Hall, the Cathedral of Learning, Chevron Science Center, and David Lawrence Hall. She said police would sweep each building for explosives April 22 and before the beginning of each exam day, and the security presence would be increased during exams that start April 23, and when they are unoccupied. People will need a Pitt ID to enter the buildings, and their bags will be checked. Should a threat be made involving one of the buildings, the building will be combed for explosives but evacuated “only if it is determined that there is an imminent threat.” Likewise, officials said residence halls

also would be swept for explosives every evening starting April 22, and access to the buildings will be restricted to people with a Pitt ID.

Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/breaking/s_792452.html

34. *April 21, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Hackers targeting governments with hijacked sites.** Malicious code planted within compromised Web pages has become the latest method for attackers targeting government organizations, according to research from security firm Zscaler, V3.co.uk reported April 21. The firm discovered many government-affiliated Web sites with code that directs users to attack servers. The most recent site to become infected was that of the French budget minister. It was found to contain obfuscated Javascript code that sends the user to a third party site and then attempts to exploit vulnerabilities and install malware on the targeted system. The attack is the latest in what Zscaler sees as a string of site hijackings aimed at government-controlled domains. Researchers noted previous attacks on systems in the United States, Austria, and Malaysia. Zscaler's chief executive believes the attacks are the work of state-sponsored operations aimed at infecting government workers and other high-value targets. A Zscaler security researcher said organizations often leave a few of their less popular sites and portals poorly maintained and protected, leaving a back door open for attackers.

Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3-uk/news/2169452/hackers-targeting-governments-hijacked-sites>

35. *April 20, eSecurity Planet* – (California) **FBI investigates CSU student for election fraud, identity theft.** The FBI is investigating a third-year business student at California State University San Marcos, for stealing about 700 students' user IDs and passwords to alter the results of an election for student body president, eSecurity Planet reported April 20. The student was arrested and jailed March 15 on suspicion of election fraud, unlawful access to a computer or database, and identity theft, but posted \$50,000 bail March 16 and was not charged with a crime. A university spokeswoman confirmed April 17 that the school was working with the FBI, and that it locked down the 700 accounts and warned the victims their accounts were compromised. Campus police found the student in possession of a keystroke logger, which can be used to steal computer passwords.

Source: <http://www.esecurityplanet.com/hackers/fbi-investigates-csu-student-for-election-fraud-identity-theft.html>

36. *April 20, WSB 750 AM Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Medical college hazmat incident sends 11 to hospital.** Around a dozen people at a surgical training school in Marietta, Georgia, were decontaminated and transported to an area hospital after they were overcome by fumes April 20. The incident occurred at Everest Institute after a vial containing a bonding substance used for surgeries was broken. A spokeswoman said the school was evacuated for a time while the area was cleaned.

Source: <http://www.wsbradio.com/news/news/local/medical-college-hazmat-incident-sends-11-hospital/nMdr7/>

37. *April 20, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Totino-Grace High School evacuated after mercury discovered.** Totino-Grace High School students were

evacuated from the Fridley, Minnesota school April 20, but told to remain on campus for nearly 4 hours after mercury from a thermometer was discovered on the floor of a science classroom. Eventually, school administrators received clearance from emergency personnel that the building was deemed safe and students could return to collect their belongings. A HAZMAT team and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency found the mercury was limited to a single classroom and students were not affected. It was feared chemicals might be found on students' shoes. Parents were alerted by phone, e-mail, and updates on the school's Web site.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/148298555.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

38. *April 22, KITV 4 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Man posing as FBI agent on Maui arrested.** Maui, Hawaii police said officers arrested a man in Kahului April 16 for theft, forgery, and impersonating a law enforcement officer. He is accused of impersonating an FBI agent to a Maui family. He asked the family to go into their home and investigate a “cyber” crime that involved their daughter and a Facebook account. The victims gave him the key to their home and, upon returning home, they noticed missing items that totaled \$1,630; Bank of Hawaii records also show the man tried to cash a personal check from the victims in the total amount of \$1,000. When police arrested him, they found a .38 caliber revolver, a TASER, three air soft handguns, two air soft rifles with scopes, two FBI badges, one Maui police badge, a hand grenade, ammunition, gunpowder, and FBI and police raid clothing in his home. The FBI was notified and responded. The FBI planned to pursue federal charges against the man.

Source: <http://www.kitv.com/news/hawaii/Man-posing-as-FBI-agent-on-Maui-arrested/-/8905354/11311284/-/h7td00z/-/>

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Information Technology Sector

39. *April 23, Computerworld* – (International) **Microsoft yanks Office for Mac 2011 upgrade.** April 20, Microsoft removed a major update for Office for Mac 2011 from its upgrade servers, acknowledging bugs that corrupted the Outlook database on some machines. Office for Mac 2011 Service Pack 2 (SP2) was released April 12. That same day, users who upgraded began reporting problems on Microsoft's support site, saying they were unable to run Outlook, the suite's e-mail client. April 17, Microsoft confirmed the SP2 upgrade could in some cases corrupt the Outlook identity database, and offered workarounds to prevent that from happening for those who did not yet install the service pack, as well as a step-by-step guide to reconstructing the database for those affected by the bug. Three days later, Microsoft took more drastic action, shutting down the delivery of Office for Mac 2011 SP2 through the company's automatic upgrade service.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9226445/Microsoft_yanks_Office_for_Mac_2011_upgrade?source=rss_security&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+computerworld/s/feed/topic/17+\(Computerworld+Security+News\)&utm_content=Google+Reader](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9226445/Microsoft_yanks_Office_for_Mac_2011_upgrade?source=rss_security&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+computerworld/s/feed/topic/17+(Computerworld+Security+News)&utm_content=Google+Reader)

40. *April 23, H Security* – (International) **WordPress fixes file upload security problems.** The developers of the popular open source blog engine WordPress released a security update for the software, the H Security reported April 23. WordPress 3.3.2 fixes unspecified bugs in three external file upload libraries used in the software and other security problems with the application. The bugs affect both WordPress's current file uploading library Plupload as well as the SWFUpload and SWFObject libraries; these were bundled with older versions of the application and might still be in use by certain plugins on the current versions of WordPress. The developers did not go into detail about the specifics of the security holes but thanked three people from the WordPress community for responsibly disclosing them. Three more fixes address a privilege escalation in the blog engine's multi-site system and two cross-site scripting vulnerabilities in the core components of WordPress.
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/WordPress-fixes-file-upload-security-problems-1545416.html>
41. *April 23, The Register* – (International) **Security bug stalls new dot-word TLD land grab again.** The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) was forced to delay its new top-level domain (TLD) expansion by another week as its IT personnel attempt to analyze the fallout of a security vulnerability. Its TLD Application System (TAS), which companies worldwide were using since January to confidentially apply for gTLDs was down for 10 days due to a bug that enabled some applicants to see information belonging to others. While ICANN maintains it fixed the problem, it now says it needs at least another week to sift through all of its TAS logs, to figure out which applicants' data was visible to which other applicants. ICANN received reports about the bug since at least March 19, but only issued the delay April 12, just 12 hours before the final application submission deadline, when it realized the severity of the problem. The organization initially hoped to get the system fixed by April 17, but when that deadline passed, it promised to give users an update on the timing by April 20. However, that update, which arrived over the the weekend of April 21, only promised to provide yet another update before the end of April 27.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/04/23/security_bug_delays_new_gtld_launch_again/
42. *April 21, Softpedia* – (International) **Experts find control panel for Ransomlock powered ransomware.** Ransomware infections have become more popular among cybercriminals, and security researchers discovered another trojan that fuels such campaigns. The novelty in this scenario is the control panel being utilized in the scheme was found. Identified by Symantec as Trojan.Ransomlock.K, the malicious element communicates with a command and control server from which it receives orders. The interface that allows the cybercrooks to communicate with their trojan is called Silent Locker Control Panel and according to experts, it is somewhat similar to other control panel used for malware such as Zeus and SpyEye. The Russian variant of

Silent Locker offers many options. It tracks the infected computer's location and date, information that can be used for billing. Also based on the location, the cybercriminal can choose what picture the ransomware displays when it takes over a computer. If notifications that rely on the reputation of a law enforcement agency do not work, the fraudsters can turn to fake Windows Security Checks or other scams that may convince victims their device is being blocked for performing illegal activities, or even because of some phony system errors. While experts have not found a trojan builder for Ransomlock.K, they believe the kit most likely comes with one.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Experts-Find-Control-Panel-for-Ransomlock-Powered-Ransomware-265732.shtml>

43. *April 20, Computerworld* – (International) **Flashback botnet not shrinking, huge numbers of Macs still infected.** Contrary to reports by several security companies, the Flashback botnet is not shrinking, according to the antivirus firm that first reported the massive infection 3 weeks ago. Dr. Web, which earlier in April was the first to report the largest-ever successful malware attack against Apple's OS X, said April 20 the pool of Flashback-infected Macs still hovers around the 650,000 mark, and infections are continuing. Also April 20, the manager of operations at Symantec's security response center confirmed Dr. Web's numbers were correct. Dr. Web's tally and its contention infections are ongoing flew in the face of other antivirus companies' assertions. Kaspersky Lab and Symantec, which each "sinkholed" select domains — hijacked them before hackers could use them to issue orders to compromised machines — used those domains to count the Macs that try to communicate with the malware's command-and-control centers. Earlier the week of April 16, Symantec said the botnet shrunk to 142,000 machines. April 19, Kaspersky claimed its count registered only 30,000 infected Macs.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9226429/Flashback_botnet_not_shrinking_huge_numbers_of_Macs_still_infected

44. *April 20, Inquirer* – (International) **100 million users might be affected by a social network vulnerability.** Do-it-yourself social networking company Ning is reportedly suffering from a security problem that could affect 100 million users. Ning lets people set up their own social networking channels. According to a Dutch report, a problem with its security could leave them wide open to account hijackers. A Dutch Web site called Web Wereld said two students exploited cookies to gain log-in control over Ning user accounts. They used a proof-of-concept that showed they could access 90,000 accounts and 100 million users, but had no intention of exploiting it for malicious purposes. They did suggest that if others were able to use it, then they could take over Ning accounts. The students told Ning about the exploit in March, and since then the firm has worked to fix it.

Source: <http://www.theinquirer.net/inquirer/news/2169403/100-million-users-affected-social-network-vulnerability>

For more stories, see items [34](#), [35](#), and [45](#)

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

45. *March 23, The Register* – (International) **Plumbers of the interwebs vow to kill IP hijacking.** The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) aims to strengthen the basic protocols of the Internet, with a way to stop route, or IP, hijacking, The Register reported April 23. IETF experts say the proposed fix is simpler to implement than previous suggestions. IP hijacking exploits a fundamental weakness of the Internet — data and messages sent across the Internet are transmitted via routers, and those routers are blindly trusted. No measures are in place to verify if they have been tampered with to re-direct or intercept traffic. At an IETF meeting in March, a working group proposed a solution that seeks to safeguard the integrity of networking kit. The proposal involves publishing preferred routes to sites in DNS records before applying a second step, using utilities to verify the instructions are trustworthy. This latter step would use DNS Security Extensions, a separate security mechanism being rolled out as a defense against cache-poisoning attacks. The whole scheme is called ROVER, or BGP Route Origin Verification (via DNS). Rover calls for the use of reverse DNS records to periodically publish route announcements, a process that would be done by sites themselves, before carrying out real-time verifications of BGP route announcements. Rover uses “best effort” data retrieval with worldwide data distribution, redundancy, and local caching. If the data is unreachable, the default is that routing would proceed as normal but without any checks.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/04/23/ip_hijack_prevention/

For more stories, see items [39](#), [41](#), and [44](#)

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Commercial Facilities Sector

46. *April 22, My Everett News* – (Washington) **Hundreds evacuated after pepper spray incident at Everett Regal Cinemas.** Hundreds of movie-goers were evacuated from the Regal Cinemas Everett in Everett, Washington, after pepper spray was released inside a theater April 22. Fire crews were called to the movie theater upon reports of something causing irritation to people inside the theater. While the initial call had as many as 30 people reportedly bothered by the substance, when Everett fire crews arrived, only a few people requested to be checked by medics. A theater employee said that the release was caused by a malfunctioning can of pepper spray in the purse of one

of the moviegoers.

Source: <http://myeverettnews.com/2012/04/22/hundreds-evacuated-after-pepper-spray-incident-at-everett-regal-cinemas/>

47. *April 22, WKRC 12 Cincinnati* – (Ohio) **Police discover meth lab at Blanchester apartment complex.** An apartment building in Blanchester, Ohio, was evacuated once authorities uncovered a methamphetamine lab April 21. Crews were called to the building after someone called 911, and then hung up. When officers arrived, they found dangerous components used to make meth inside of an apartment. All residents living at the apartment building were forced to leave. There was no word as of April 22 on when they would be able to return.
Source: http://www.local12.com/mostpopular/story/Police-Discover-Meth-Lab-at-Blanchester-Apartment/o-S_GdSPMEy82Vu90rMmMg.csp
48. *April 20, WXYZ 7 Detroit* – (Michigan) **Bed Bug spraying sickens residents at apartment building in Detroit.** Emergency crews responded to the scene of a HAZMAT situation at an apartment building in Detroit, April 20. The building was being sprayed for bed bugs, but some of the residents did not leave the building. Emergency crews could be seen hosing down individuals and taking residents away by ambulance. Officials said that 8-10 people were taken to area hospitals to be treated.
Source: <http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/region/detroit/hazmat-situation-at-apartment-building-in-detroit>
49. *April 20, Fox 29 San Antonio* – (Texas) **Massive fire destroys northside motel.** More than 100 firefighters battled a three-alarm fire that destroyed a San Antonio motel April 20. The fire broke out in a stairwell at the Studio 6 motel, but strong winds quickly carried the fire into the third floor, where it engulfed the roof. At one point, part of the roof collapsed onto several firefighters, who were all able to get out and escape injury. The building was being renovated and was not occupied, though a neighboring building had more than 80 guests present.
Source: http://www.foxsanantonio.com/newsroom/top_stories/videos/vid_9997.shtml
50. *April 20, WCAX 3 Vermont* – (New York) **Fire forces hotel guests to jump from balcony.** A massive fire at the Hillside Motel in Massena, New York, forced people to jump off a second-floor balcony to escape the flames, April 20. Investigators were looking into the possibility that someone was smoking while using oxygen. Five motel guests were taken to a hospital. Two were airlifted for treatment of burns and severe smoke inhalation.
Source: <http://www.wcax.com/story/17627811/fire-forces-hotel-guests-to-jump-from-balcony>

For another story, see item [5](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

51. *April 23, NewsCore* – (Utah) **2 arrested for allegedly planting deadly booby traps on Utah walking trail.** Two men were in custody in Utah after deadly booby traps were uncovered along a popular walking trail in Provo Canyon, NewsCore reported April 23. The suspects were charged April 21 with reckless endangerment, a misdemeanor. A statement issued by the Utah County Sheriff's Office said a U.S. Forest Service officer discovered the two booby traps inside a makeshift shelter built from dead tree limbs while on foot patrol along the Big Springs walking trail April 16. "As he investigated the shelter he noticed what appeared to be a trip wire near the ground at an entrance. Upon further investigation he discovered that the trip wire led to a booby trap device which was made with a large rock, sticks sharpened at both ends, and was held together with rope," the statement read. "This device was situated in such a way that when contact was made with the trip wire it would swing toward an unsuspecting hiker or camper," the statement added. A second booby trap was also discovered, also triggered by a trip wire. "This wire was configured so as to trip a person, possibly causing them to fall forward onto sharpened sticks placed in the ground," the statement said. Police said the pair confessed to placing the deadly traps in the makeshift enclosure.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2012/04/23/2-arrested-for-allegedly-planting-deadly-booby-traps-on-utah-walking-trail/>

For another story, see item [6](#)

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Dams Sector

52. *April 19, Lancaster Intelligencer Journal; Lancaster New Era* – (Pennsylvania) **Officials say dried-up lake a source of pollution.** Warwick Township, Pennsylvania supervisors have claimed sediment backed up behind a 46-year-old dam at Speedwell Forge lake is running unimpeded down Hammer Creek, carrying phosphorous and nitrogen through Lancaster County waterways and toward the fragile Chesapeake Bay ecosystem. Warwick Township officials April 18 approved a unanimous resolution asking the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC) to address the environmental concern. Penn and Elizabeth townships, which share the Hammer Creek watershed with Warwick, are expected to pass similar resolutions. The PFBC officials said the embankment will be breached in July 2012 to address flood risks to homeowners downstream, which has local officials worried the flow of sediment will increase exponentially.

Source: http://lancasteronline.com/article/local/630533_Officials-say-dried-up-lake-a-source-of-pollution.html

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